

# Memorandum

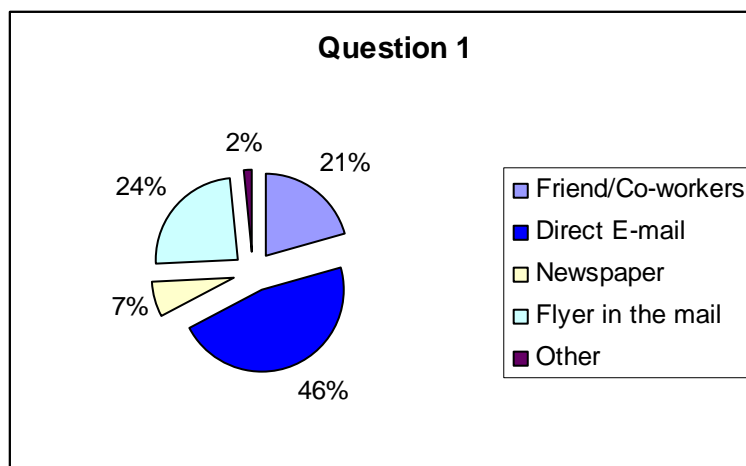
## Diversity Office



On December 13, 2004 the City of Tempe Diversity Office featured its third lecture series on cultural awareness entitled, “WHO’S Your Neighbor?”, on the topic of Homelessness. One hundred and two (102) community members and employees were in attendance. The Diversity Office surveyed attendees at the conclusion of the lecture to gather feedback for evaluating the program and making improvements.

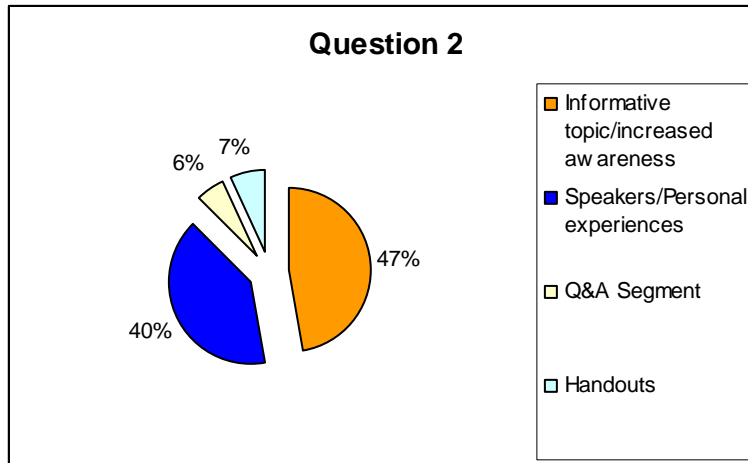
### 1. How did you hear about this program?

Of the 58 responses to this question, 46% heard about the program through direct e-mail. The Diversity Office maintains an electronic database, which acts like a mailing list, to send informational flyers on upcoming events. Another 24% received a flyer in the mail. Word of mouth through friends and co-workers captured 21% of the responses. The “Other” category included the Internet.



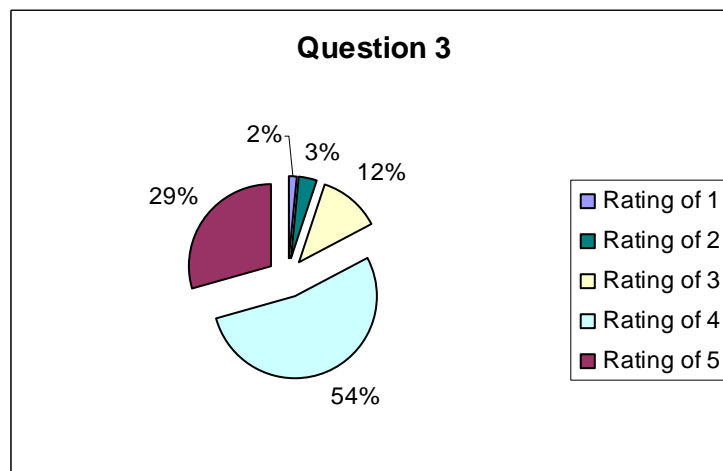
### 2. What did you like best about today’s function?

There were 72 responses to this open-ended question. Many in attendance had several positive comments about the program. The majority, or 47%, felt that the program was informative and heightened their awareness of the issue. Forty percent enjoyed the presentation and personal experiences of the speakers.



**3. On a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the highest, please rate your experiences with this program**

There were 58 responses to this statement. The graph below reflects the response percentage of each rating.



Fifty-four percent of attendees rated their experience with the program 4, while 29% rated the program at 5. Only two rated the program at 2 and one person rated the program 1. These were the comments from those that rated the program 1 or 2:

- Thank you for putting these luncheons on. It was informational. It was nice to have the two speakers from Tumbleweed to share their experiences.
- The last person to ask a question portrayed our police officers as unfeeling louts who arbitrarily routed out homeless people. I came away feeling very frustrated at not having had the opportunity to counter that very inaccurate portrayal with the realities that go hand-in-hand with keeping the public safe.

**4. In efforts of providing continued quality programming, please list the topics you would like featured at the next “WHO’S Your Neighbor?” Brown Bag Lecture.**

- Resources available in Tempe to the Public
- More on Homeless problems
- Decriminalizing homelessness
- More on this subject
- Perhaps a follow-up to the homeless program
- Let’s follow-up on this subject and get people involved in solutions
- Why no homeless shelters in Tempe?
- Notices of funding availability for human services
- More in-depth topic on this issue
- To become aware of these problems
- Explorations in religion, race, other human service topic areas, domestic violence, aging, etc.
- Domestic violence services in Tempe
- School-related topics
- Dialogue with different faith groups
- Various ethnic and religious minorities
- Dialogue from service personnel like fire, police, and other city employees to find that they are us and we are them
- Civil workers, Police, etc.
- Non-profits that provide services in our community
- Focus on new immigrant and refugee populations
- New immigrants to the USA
- The immigrant (legal & illegal) populations and their integration into Society; language skills & funding for these programs
- Undocumented immigrants, Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community, Town of Guadalupe residents
- Immigrants
- Neighborhood Associations/Block Watch leaders
- More about the local Muslim/Islamic population
- Why are “gated” communities promoted as a positive benefit?
- More discussions on Bias, Glass Ceiling, Racism
- Handicap issues
- Persons with disabilities in the community
- Tempe Police Department/Value Options/the Homeless School
- The Mentally Ill

**5. Comments?**

Attendees were given an opportunity to add any final comments to either the present or future Brown Bags.

- Thank you!
- Great job as usual!
- Glad I attended, very informative. Didn't know a lot of things that were discussed.
- I liked the way the meeting was handled.
- Excellent program.
- Why would two intelligent, well-spoken young men be homeless? They seemed arrogant and independent and okay with taking from Society rather than giving back.
- Great program!
- Thank you for including the homeless population in this series.
- Difficult to hear the speakers as people are opening their lunches and chomping loudly on their chips and such.
- Thank you.
- Post-meetings, networking.
- Given that any kind of guaranteed free or affordable housing would interfere with the profits of real estate, speculators, landlords, and forums such as this one is incomplete without providing the socioeconomic background of the problem of homelessness.
- Capture the names and contact information of the people attending and create a network for feedback after each session. Give people the opportunity to pledge to work on an issue with a response card with contact information.
- Thank you for putting these luncheons on. It was informational. It was nice to have the two speakers from Tumbleweed to share experiences.
- You could have gone on for 2-3 hours! Very good topic and well-attended!
- I feel it is a valuable program. Any knowledge we receive from people directly involved is a good thing.
- A connection to action is an important complement.
- Very informative.
- Talk more on solutions; more on solving problems.
- Very good! I appreciated the personal stories.
- I feel that the last commenter should have been given validation for his issues. Part of understanding your neighbors is understanding their issues.
- Quality program. Well presented.
- I appreciate the acknowledgement of the homeless community as being a part of the "Who's Your Neighbor?" series.
- I think it would have been interesting to hear from some of the departments (police) brought up today as to the comments. Maybe an online discussion group or interactive-how-can-I-help kind of thing might get more folks involved and break down some of the frustrations for those who are trying and trying and finding the struggle difficult.
- There's clearly a need for continuing dialogue/action groups on this.
- Keep up the good work in putting these programs together.